In the Abstract:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to a \underline{A} method of automatically classifying alerts issued by intrusion detection sensors (11a, 11b, 11c) of an information security system (1) for producing collated alerts, each alert being defined by a plurality of qualitative attributes $(a_1,...,a_n)$ belonging to a plurality of attribute domains (A1,...,An), which method comprises the following steps: organizing the attributes \underline{A} attributes belonging to each attribute domain are organized into a hierarchical structure[[;]]. constructing for \underline{F} or each alert issued by the intrusion detection sensors (11a, 11b, 11c), a trellis specific to that alert is constructed by generalizing each alert in accordance with each of its attributes and at all the levels of the hierarchical structure[[;]] iteratively merging each. Each specific trellis is iteratively merged into a general trellis[[;]]. identifying collated Collated alerts in the general trellis are identified by selecting the alerts that are simultaneously the most pertinent and the most general; and supplying the .The collated alerts are supplied to an output unit (23) of an alert management system (13).